In the claims, please cancel all the claims without prejudice to their future prosecution in this or a future application, and introduce the following new 13 claims, with the status for all as shown:

CLAIMS 1-161 (CANCELED)

CLAIM 162. (NEW) A compound comprising a peptide chain approximately 12 to 40 amino acids in length that binds to G-CSFR and contains a sequence of amino acids of formula (V) (V) $CX^{IV}_1X^{IV}_2X^{IV}_3X^{IV}_4X^{IV}_5X^{IV}_6X^{IV}_7X^{IV}_8X^{IV}_9X^{IV}_{10}C$ (SEQ ID NO: 5) wherein each amino acid is indicated by standard one-letter abbreviation, and wherein

X^{IV}_1 is E, G, P, N, R, T, W, S, L, H, A, Q or Y;

X^{IV}_2 is S, T, E, A, D, G, W, P, L, N, V, Y, R or M;

X^{IV}_3 is R, Y, V, Q, E, T, L, P, S, K, M, A or W;

X^{IV}_4 is L, M, G, F, W, R, S, V, P, A, D, C or T;

X^{IV}_5 is V, T, A, R, S, L, W, C, I, E, P, H, F, D or Q;

X^{IV}_6 is E, Y, G, T, Q, M, S, N, A or P;

X^{IV}_7 is C, V, D, G, L, W, E, V, I, S, M or A;

X^{IV}_8 is S, Y, A, W, P, V, L, Q, G, K, F, I, E or D;

X^{IV}_9 is R, W, M, D, H, V, G, A, Q, L, S, E or Y ;

X^{IV}_{10} is M, L, I, S, V, P, W, F, T, Y, R, or Q;

and wherein said compound does not comprise sequence

LLDICELKLQECARRCN (SEQ ID NO: 208).

CLAIM 163. (NEW) The compound of claim 162, wherein

X^{IV}_1 is E, X^{IV}_2 is S or A, X^{IV}_3 is R, X^{IV}_4 is L, X^{IV}_5 is V or S, X^{IV}_6 is E, X^{IV}_7 is C, X^{IV}_8 is S, X^{IV}_9 is R, and X^{IV}_{10} is L.

CLAIM 164. (NEW) The compound of claim 162, wherein the sequence of amino acids is selected from the group consisting of:

GGGLLDICELKLQECARRCN (SEQ ID NO: 209);

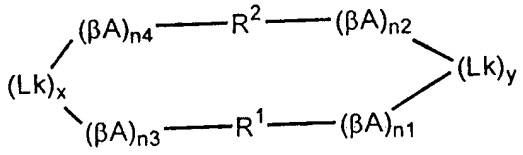
GRTGGLLDICELKLQECARRCN (SEQ ID NO: 210);

LGIEGRTGGGLLDICELKLQECARRCN (SEQ ID NO: 211);

LLDICEELKLQEAARRCN (SEQ ID NO: 212); and

KLLDICELKLQEAARRCN (SEQ ID NO: 213).

CLAIM 165. (NEW) The compound of claim 162, comprising a dimer having the structure of formula (VIII)



wherein R'and R^2 are independently selected from the sequences of amino acids of formula (V); βA is a β-alanine residue; nl, n2, n3, n4, x and y are independently zero or one with the proviso that the sum of x and y is either one or two; and Lk is a terminal linking moiety selected from the group consisting of a disulfide bond, a carbonyl moiety, a C1-12 linking moiety optionally terminated with one or two-NH-linkages and optionally substituted at one or more available carbon atoms with a lower alkyl substituent, a lysine residue or a lysine amide.

CLAIM 166. (NEW) The compound of claim 162, containing a disulfide bond.

CLAIM 167. (NEW) The compound of claims 162 wherein the N terminus of the peptide is coupled to a polyethylene glycol molecule.

CLAIM 168. (NEW) The compound of claim 162 wherein the N terminus of the peptide is acetylated.

CLAIM 169. (NEW) The compound of claim 162, wherein the C terminus of the peptide is amidated.

CLAIM 170. (NEW) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of any claim 162, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

CLAIM 171. (NEW) A method for treating a patient who would benefit from administration of a GCSF modulator, comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 162.

CLAIM 172. (NEW) The method of claim 171, wherein the G-CSF modulator is an agonist for the GCSFR.

CLAIM 173. (NEW) The method of claim 171, wherein the patient suffers from a depressed neutrophil count.

CLAIM 174. (NEW) The method of claim 173, wherein the depressed neutrophil count is associated with a condition selected from the group consisting of chemotherapy-induced neutropenia, AIDSinduced neutropenia and community-acquired pneumonia-induced neutropenia.